**BROUGHTON MOOR PARISH COUNCIL**

**Chairman: Mr Rob Ives Clerk: Mrs Jean Sorensen**

**Minutes of the Meeting held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 20th September 2016**

**Present: Parish Councillors** Rob Ives, David Sharp, Clare Thinnessen, John Berry, Elaine Martin,

Thomas Armstrong and Marjorie Harrison

**County Councillor** Keith Little

**County and Borough Councillor Carni McCarron-Holmes.**

**Parish Clerk** Jean Sorensen

**Also Present** Diane Watson (7.00pm – 7.30pm), Nigel Pattison (CCF) (8.00pm – 8.10pm)

andRev’d Judith Morgan

**48/16 Apologies for absence** were received from Allerdale Borough Councillor Lee Williamson

and the Police

**49/16 Requests for Dispensations –** there were none.

**50/16 Declarations of interest –** there were none.

**51/16 Public Section**

1. Mrs Watson outlined the difficulties with access to the footpath at the former garage on Seaton Road where the new owner was attempting to divert the path and had erected a gate across the existing path which he had locked. Mrs Watson was in contact with Guy Timperley (CCC Footpaths’ Officer) who was attempting to find a remedy. It was agreed that the matter requires a legal solution. Mrs Watson is collating evidence of use from villagers in an attempt to establish an absolute public right to walk along the route of the existing path. County Councillor Keith Little said that he was aware of the issues and whilst a gate was permissible for security purposes it ought to be kept unlocked at all times. Cllr Little undertook to monitor the situation in conjunction with the County Council’s legal dept and the rights of way officer. Cllr Little also promised to ask the rights of way officer to email the parish clerk with information. It was agreed that the parish council would take a supporting role in this issue
2. There was a brief discussion of another footpath where a landowner had blocked the right of way. County Councillor Little stated that he was aware of this issue and would progress it further.

**52/16 Police Matters** – there were none

**53/16 Minutes**

On the proposal of Cllr D Sharp, seconded by Cllr C Thinnesen, the minutes of the meeting held on 19th July 2016 were approved and signed as a correct record.

**54/16 Matters arising from the Minutes**

1. Further to minute 41/16, County Councillor Little confirmed that the new concrete pad had now been fitted to the base of the bus stop at Sunnyslack; overhanging hedgerows had been cut back; drainage issues attended to, blocked gullies repaired and blockages removed.

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1. Further to minute 45/16 ii) Cllr Elaine Martin reported on a meeting she had attended at the Wave at which she had raised the issue of knot weed with the Environment Agency officer.
2. Further to minute 43/16 County Cllr Little had spoken to Bob Muskat and the footpaths had been strimmed.
3. Cllrs M Harrison, E Martin and R Ives had attended Code of Conduct training with ABC and had found the session very informative. Cllr Harrison had asked why the parish council members had not been told that a complaint had been made against them until after a decision had been made and was informed that, where there is clearly no case to answer, the monitoring officer makes a decision to dismiss the case without contacting the persons against whom the complaint has been lodged.

*County Cllr K Little left the meeting at this point*

**55/16 Planning**

1. PB/2016/0029 BT Payphones, application for removal of three Phone Boxes at Sunnyslack, Seaton Road and Moorfields, Broughton Moor. Resolved; No objections
2. 2/2016/0613 M-Sport Limited, variation of condition 5g on application 2/2014/0350 to alter time restrictions noise level limits. Resolved; No objections
3. HOU/2016/0004 Mr John Wilkinson – erection of porch at front of house, 17 Heatherfields, Broughton Moor. Councillor C McCarron-Holmes advised that she had visited at the pre-committee stage of the previous (retrospective) application and had requested a site visit to establish parity as other properties in the vicinity had similar porches. Resolved, that the parish council supports this application.

**56/16 Community Centre Update**

Cllrs Rob Ives and David Sharp had attended a meeting with Milburns’ solicitors as a result of which a four page letter had been sent to Mrs C Ferguson’s solicitor establishing ownership of the community centre by the parish council. A response is awaited.

It was noted that issues with lights and keys cannot be progressed until the matter is concluded with solicitors.

The monitoring officer had advised that an audit of the Village Activity Committee’s accounts be requested but it was recognised that it is not the role of the Parish Council to do this. Cllr R Ives to email copies of the funding sheets received from Cumbria Community Foundation to parish councillors for information.

Councillor Carni McCarron-Holmes updated the Parish Council on Mrs Ferguson’s complaint against her which, having been dismissed by Allerdale Borough Council, was now raised with Cumbria County Council. This complaint was expected to be similarly dismissed.

**57/16 Wind Farm Report**

The Chairman updated councillors on the situation with the £9,100 wind farm money from the previous year still held by the Cumberland Building Society. CBS had confirmed that the money would not be released without the signatures of C Ferguson and A Tyson; this would need to be done by post. Council agreed to place the matter in the hands of the solicitor.

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Nigel Pattison, fund manager for Cumbria Community Foundation, explained that he had been in contact with both Sovereign Partners and Engie. Sovereign Partners will be issuing £2,000 per annum to the fund and Engie will issue £9,450 per annum, according to their agreement with Broughton Moor Windfarm Committee. CCF had drafted an agreement between themselves and Broughton Moor Parish Council which was circulated at the meeting. Councillors to respond by email with any comments on the draft agreement within one week. The grant making priorities had been copied directly from the Engie contract.

*Nigel Pattison left the meeting at this point.*

**58/16 Footpath** – dealt with under public section

**59/16 Christmas Arrangements**

Cllr Elaine Martin explained that the school would be holding a Christmas Fayre on Friday 2nd December when a presentation of £20,000 would be made by the National Grid.

The Parish Council agreed to provide the usual Christmas Tree for the village and would ensure that the tree lighting ceremony did not clash with the School’s arrangements. It was noted that there are currently 58 children on roll at the school, number for Koalas were not known. Parish Council will provide refreshments and a small gift for each child. A sub committee would meet on 4th October at 7.00pm to progress matters further.

**60/16 Correspondence**

The following items of correspondence were received:

1. Letter re milestone – defer to next meeting.
2. Email from Mrs R Hindle re flooding to her garden on The Avenue. Alex Watson of ISS had visited and advised. The garden is lower than the Welfare Field so excess water from the field runs off into it. Mrs Hindle requested the parish council consider paying for a soakaway but it was felt that this would set a precedent. Cllr C McCarron-Holmes suggested asking Julian Smith at ABC for advice, clerk to inform Mrs Hindle of this.
3. CCC Cumbria Minerals and Waste Local Plan – received for information only
4. St Columba’s Church had written thanking the Parish Council for the use of the community centre for services and meetings and offering to make a monthly contribution towards the heating and lighting from November onwards. On the proposal of Cllr T Armstrong, seconded by Cllr M Harrison, it was agreed that no charge would be made for heating and lighting but the church be thanked for their kind offer. It was further agreed that the PCC could meet in the Community Centre on 17th November.

It was noted that the only people currently being charged for use of the hall were the dancers who were making payments directly to Mrs C Ferguson at her insistence.

1. Cuddly Koalas requested information on funds to apply to. Clerk was instructed to reply that they might try
2. Sellafield (as they are a registered charity
3. Neighbourhood Area at CCC (Via Hayley Bishop, Workington Library)
4. Cumbria Community Foundation (Annalee Holliday)
5. Invitation to attend N W Coast Connections Project public consultation meeting on Tue 18th October 6 – 8pm at The Wave, Maryport. Two councillors may attend. Cllrs R Ives and J Berry to attend. (As this is the same date as the next parish council, that meeting will be postponed until 1st November).

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**61/16 Finance**

1. The Clerk presented the Audit Commission’s final report on the Parish Council’s accounts for the year ended 31st March 2016. There were no issues to be noted and the Parish Council’s accounts had received a clear bill of health.
2. Cheques to be issued;

The following were agreed:

101424 BDO LLP (Audit Fee) £120.00

101425 Play Safety Ltd (RoSPA) £100.80

101426 Mr R Ives (Chairman’s allowance) £200.00

101427 Mrs J Sorensen (Salary) £278.82

101428 Postage, stationary and computer

Expenses £ 59.86

101429 HMRC (PAYE) £ 66.20

**62/16 Appointment of new Parish Clerk**

The Parish Council unanimously agreed to appoint Rev’d Judith Morgan to this post, effective from 1st November 2016. Mrs Jean Sorensen was thanked for all the work that she had done on behalf of the council over the last 7 years and for the professionalism with which she had carried out her tasks. Mrs Sorensen thanked the council for their support and stated that she had come to regard the councillors as friends.

The meeting closed at 8.38pm

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